

can see, Ray spent a lifetime giving back to his community.

An avid Rison Wildcat football fan, Ray will be remembered by many in the Rison community for nearly six decades as the voice of the Wildcats. In 1995, Ray and his brother were honored for their dedication to the Rison School District when the school district designated a 'Ray and Roy Martin Week' to honor a half century of service. Ray truly set a high bar of community service for us all to aspire to.

Ray was a dear friend of mine and my heartfelt condolences go out to Ray's wife, Mary Ethel, their daughters, Cindy and Hilda; their grandsons, Marty, Russ, and Jason; and their great-granddaughters, Lindsey and Ella. While Jim may no longer be with us, his legacy and his spirit will always live on in all the lives he touched.

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TRIBUTE TO JESS F. GRANONE

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 15, 2005*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Jess F. Granone for his many years of outstanding service as Executive Director of the U.S. Space and Missile Defense Technical Center (SMDTC). Mr. Granone is leaving the position, which he assumed in May of 1999.

As director of SMDTC, he has been responsible for managing the day-to-day research, development, test, and evaluation activities for the Army's space and missile defense technology program. He has ensured that the command's efforts are balanced and integrated to support the Army, the Missile Defense Agency, and the Program Executive Office for the Air and Missile Defense.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Granone began his career in missile defense as an engineer in the Joint Anti-Tactical Missile Project office in the mid-1980s. He has participated in numerous international defense initiatives in conjunction with NATO, Israel, and Japan, as well as numerous special assignments such as Chairman of the U.S. Army Missile Review Board.

Some of Mr. Granone's accomplishments include developing SMDC's first integrated technology program for Directed Energy, developing the first ever KATYUSHA rocket shot down by a laser system, and developing the Army's science and technology research efforts related to space and office products. Mr. Granone was also instrumental in starting the Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment System program.

Through his many years of service, Mr. Granone has received numerous awards for his accomplishments. Most notably, he has received the Senior Executive Service Presidential Rank Award, the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Superior Civilian Service Award, and a Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I rise today to express my gratitude to Jess Granone for his service to our military and our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS M.  
DEVANNEY

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 15, 2005*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Thomas M. Devanney for his many years of outstanding service to our military and our Nation.

Mr. Devanney is currently the Acting Program Director for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office. In this capacity, he is responsible for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense element of the Ballistic Missile Defense System.

Including his service in the GMD Joint Program office, Mr. Devanney has over thirty years of military and civilian missile system acquisition experience. Through his many years of service, Mr. Devanney has served in a variety of roles including the Chief of Missiles and Air Defense Systems in the Pentagon, Deputy PEO for Army Tactical Missiles and the Project Manager for the TOW Heavy Antitank Weapon Systems. He also served two overseas tours with the HAWK Air Defense System, and tours in Germany, Korea, and Vietnam.

Upon retiring from the Army, Mr. Devanney entered the private sector with Alliant Techsystems, Inc. He held several key positions, including Director of the Warheads and Munitions Business Segment.

For his many accomplishments, Mr. Devanney has received numerous prestigious awards. Most notably, he has received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives, the Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Award, and the Bronze Star Medal.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I rise today to express my gratitude to Thomas Devanney for his extraordinary service to our military and our Nation.

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IN HONOR OF JOYCE L. FIGGS,  
PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES  
AUXILIARY OF THE DELAWARE  
VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSO-  
CIATION

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 15, 2005*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Joyce Figgs, the outgoing President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (LADVFA). In addition to logging more than 46 years of service to the Delmar Ladies Auxiliary, Joyce has also served several terms as President of the Delmar chapter.

From 1991-1993, Joyce served as the Ladies Auxiliary President in Wicomico County, Maryland. After a successful term in the Free State, thankfully, Joyce shifted her talents to Delaware and in 1993, was elected President of the Sussex County Ladies Auxiliary.

In 1994, Joyce was inducted into the Del-Mar-Va Hall of Honor, an illustrious and fitting

tribute. However, her service would not stop with this induction. Joyce would serve additional terms as President of the Del-Mar-Va Firemen's Association Ladies Auxiliary from 1996 to 1997 and President in Wicomico County until 2003.

As you know, firefighters are of critical importance to our society. In order to be as effective as possible, they require dedicated and organized supporters. During her tenure, Joyce has led the Auxiliary in these areas admirably.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Joyce Figgs for her exceptional career of service and dedication. LADVFA 1st Vice-President Barbara Rossiter and 2nd Vice-President Florence Legates join me in congratulating Joyce on her service as President of the LADVFA.

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TRIBUTE TO MS. ELOUISE  
ASHFORD COLEMAN

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 15, 2005*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and fellow South Carolinian, Ms. Elouise Ashford Coleman. After 35 years of tireless dedication to the students of South Carolina, Ms. Coleman is celebrating her retirement on Saturday with friends and family.

Ms. Coleman received her early public school education in Fairfield County, graduating from McCrorey-Liston High School in 1966. She then matriculated at Voorhees College, receiving a Bachelors of Arts in Mathematics in 1970. Ms. Coleman began her educational career shortly thereafter. First, as a math teacher at Winnsboro High School in Fairfield County, and later, as a math teacher at Columbia High School, in Columbia, South Carolina. She taught at Columbia High for 19 years, during which time she received a Master's degree in Education from the University of South Carolina.

Ms. Coleman left the classroom in 1994 upon accepting the position of Assistant Principal at Columbia High School. It is from this position that Ms. Coleman is retiring after serving as an administrator for 11 years. She will be sorely missed as she begins her well deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Ms. Elouise Ashford Coleman. She has given of her time and talents for 35 years as an educator in my home state. The contributions she has made to her community and to the educational system will leave lasting impressions on the lives she has touched. I wish her continued success and Godspeed.